

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY



(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 |
| International application No. PCT/EP2005/050408 | International filing date (day/month/year) 01.02.2005 | Priority date (day/month/year) 03.02.2004 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H05K7/20, B64D11/06 | | |
| Applicant THALES et al. | | |

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:
 - ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - ☒ Box No. I Basis of the report
 - ☐ Box No. II Priority
 - ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
 - ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement according to Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
 - ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
 - ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

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| Date of submission of the demand 01.07.2005 | Date of completion of this report 17.01.2006 |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399-0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399-4465 | Authorized officer Dobbs, H Telephone No. +49 89 2399-7430  |

Box No. I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4).
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

Description, pages

1-6 as originally filed

Claims, No.

1-6 filed with the international preliminary examination application

Drawings, sheets

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)):
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/050408

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

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|--------------------------|------|--------|-----|
| Novelty | Yes: | Claims | 1-6 |
| | No: | Claims | |
| Inventive Step | Yes: | Claims | 1-6 |
| | No: | Claims | |
| Industrial Applicability | Yes: | Claims | 1-6 |
| | No: | Claims | |

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

see separate sheet

Regarding item V**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Reference is made to the following document:
D1: US-A-5 409 186 (CHOW DOMINIC) 25 April 1995 (1995-04-25)
2. The application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 6 since claim 5 is not clear.

The term "intended to be connected to a passive cooling device" used in claim 5 is vague and leaves doubt as to the meaning of the technical features to which it refers. The subject matter of said claim is therefore not clearly defined (PCT Article 6).

3. Document D1, which is considered to be the closest prior art in relation to the subject matter of claim 1, describes (the references between parentheses apply to this document):

An aircraft seat (10), the seat being equipped with an electronic box (20, 31, 35, 28) capable of releasing heat and an element (21, 24, 25, 26) consisting of a heat-conducting material and comprising a contact region (its edge) connected to the box, this contact region being arranged on the element so as to dissipate the heat coming from the box toward the whole of the element (see fig. 5).

Consequently, the subject matter of claim 1 differs from the known seat in terms of a passive cooling device interposed between the box and the element. The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve is that of discharging the heat toward an element remote from the box.

The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1, is considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) because document D1 proposes connecting the electronic box directly to the heat-dissipating element. A person skilled in the art

would therefore not be prompted to interpose a passive device between the box and the element.

4. The same reasoning applies to the subject matter of independent claim 6, which is therefore novel and inventive for its part too.
5. Claims 2-5 are dependent on claim 1 and thus also comply, as such, with the requirements of novelty and inventive step of the PCT.